# MNNR

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

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## International Notes

## Brazilian Purpuric Fever: Haemophilus aegyptius Bacteremia Complicating Purulent Conjunctivitis

Brazilian purpuric fever (BPF) was first recognized in late 1984 in the town of Promissao, São Paulo State, Brazil (1). The disease was characterized by the acute onset of high fever, vomiting, and abdominal pain, followed by purpura, vascular collapse, and death in children 3 months to 8 years of age. There was no evidence of meningitis, and blood cultures were negative when obtained, although some patients may have received antibiotics. Haemophilus aegyptius (Haemophilus influenzae, biotype III) was isolated from a nonaseptically obtained skin scraping of a petechia from an affected child.

Although the etiology could not be determined at the time of the outbreak, an epidemiologic investigation indicated disease was associated with preceding purulent conjunctivitis. 

H. aegyptius was the most commonly isolated organism from children with purulent conjunctivitis in Promissao; however, conjunctival cultures had not been obtained from children who subsequently developed BPF. Surveillance for BPF also identified other cases, including an outbreak of 17 cases that had occurred in 1984 in a town in the neighboring state of Paraná. In addition, 12 sporadic cases in early 1985 and a cluster of eight cases in February 1986 all occurred in towns in São Paulo State.

In March 1986, an outbreak of purulent conjunctivitis occurred in Serrana, São Paulo State. Because of surveillance established for BPF and the development of protocols for collecting specimens, blood cultures were obtained from children in Serrana with fever and concomitant or recent histories of conjunctivitis and from those with clinical presentations consistent with BPF.

Ten children, 20 months to 6 years of age, had blood (eight) or cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) (two) cultures positive for *H. aegyptius*. However, none had evidence of meningitis, and there was evidence that the two culture-positive CSF specimens may have been contaminated with blood. All had fever; only five had petechiae and/or purpura. Four of the 10 died. Five of the 10 fit the previously established case definition of BPF (1), and nine had recent histories of conjunctivitis. The majority had received antibiotic eye drops for treatment of conjunctivitis.

#### Purpuric Fever - Continued

Among the 10 culture-confirmed cases and an additional case that fit the BPF case definition, patients who received intravenous antibiotics (generally ampicillin with or without chloramphenicol) before the development of petechiae or purpura (five of six) were more likely to survive than those who did not (one of five). Four additional patients with BPF and blood cultures positive for *H. aegyptius* were reported from four other towns in São Paulo State between March and June 1986.

Based on these findings, the case definition of BPF has been revised:

 A. A febrile illness in a child with isolation of H. aegyptius from a normally sterile body site (e.g., blood, CSF).

OR

- B. 1. An acute illness in a child aged 3 months to 10 years characterized by:
  - a. Fever of 38.5 C (101.3 F) or higher.
  - b. Abdominal pain and/or vomiting.
  - c. Development of petechiae and/or purpura.
  - d. No evidence of meningitis.
  - 2. History of conjunctivitis within the 30 days preceding the onset of fever.
  - 3. At least one of the following two tests negative for Neisseria meningitidis:
    - a. Blood cultures taken before antibiotic administration.
    - b. Serum or urine antigen detection.
  - 4. Other laboratory data if obtained:
    - a. CSF containing 100 or fewer leukocytes per mm<sup>3</sup> and negative culture or antigen detection for pathogenic bacteria other than H. segyptius.
    - Blood cultures taken before antibiotic administration negative for known pathogenic bacteria other than H. aegyptius.
    - Serologic studies, if obtained, negative for known pathogens other than H. aegyptius.

Reported by Brazilian Purpuric Fever Task Force, São Paulo, Brazil, and Atlanta, Georgia.

Editorial Note: BPF is a serious systemic illness that accumulating evidence suggests is due to invasive *H. aegyptius* disease. The illness characteristically begins with purulent conjunctivitis caused by *H. aegyptius* and progresses in a small percentage of patients to fever and other systemic manifestations due to disseminated *H. aegyptius* infection. If untreated, some patients may develop petechiae and purpura and die from overwhelming endotoxemia and shock. The clinical presentation of BPF is similar to meningococcemia.

The observation that the majority of patients had initially received local antibiotic therapy for treatment of conjunctivitis suggests that topical treatment of conjunctivitis may be inadequate in preventing BPF. However, use of systemic antibiotics to treat BPF before development of hemorrhagic skin lesions may be effective in preventing progression of the disease and reducing the case-fatality rate.

It is unknown whether BPF occurs in areas other than southern Brazil. In many areas, blood cultures may not be drawn if cases are treated empirically for presumed meningococcemia. However, the occurrence of clusters in areas separated by 250 miles suggests the potential for spread.

Questions about BPF or reports of similar illnesses should be directed to the Meningitis and Special Pathogens Branch, Division of Bacterial Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC: telephone (404) 329-3687.

#### Reference

 CDC. Preliminary report: epidemic fatal purpuric fever among children—Brazil. MMWR 1985;34: 217-9.

# **Epidemiologic Notes and Reports**

#### Rabies in a Javelina - Arizona

On March 1, 1986, a 47-year-old woman and her husband were hunting javelina (collared peccary, *Pecari angulatus*, a pig-like mammal) near the Superstition Mountains, east of Phoenix, Arizona. The woman saw a javelina "chasing its tail"; she was subsequently attacked and bitten by the animal on her left upper thigh. Her husband shot the animal to dislodge it from her thigh. The bite resulted in a jagged 3½ inch wound, and the woman was treated at a local hospital. The animal was diagnosed as rabid by the direct immunofluorescent antibody test on a brain specimen, from which rabies virus was also isolated. The woman received rabies postexposure prophylaxis.

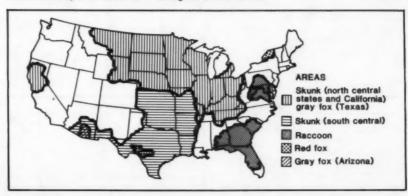
Reported by M Hetrick, H Goodman, MD, Gila County Dept of Health, M Wright, D Woodall, R Cheshire, J Doll, PhD, SJ Englander, MD, LF Novick, MD, C Levy, GG Caldwell, MD, State Epidemiologist, Arizona Dept of Health Svcs; Viral and Rickettsial Zoonoses Br, Div of Viral Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC.

Editorial Note: This is the first report of rabies in a javelina. Bites by javelina are most likely to occur while the animals are being sought as game. Javelina are found south of 35 N latitude in parts of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, most of Central America except for central Mexico, and south to Colombia.

Almost all wildlife rabies in the United States occurs among skunk, raccoon, bat, and fox species (in decreasing frequency of reported cases); however, the disease is occasionally found in an unexpected host. The origin of rabies in these animals can be investigated by typing the virus with a panel of monoclonal antibodies (mabs) to nucleocapsid proteins (1).

On the basis of nucleocapsid reactivity with a panel of mabs, five antigenically distinct groups of rabies viruses can be formed from isolates collected from the major terrestrial wild-life rabies enzootic areas of the United States (Figure 1). These five antigenically distinct groups comprise isolates collected from: (1) skunk rabies areas of California and the north central United States and gray fox rabies areas of central Texas; (2) skunk rabies areas of the south central United States; (3) raccoon rabies areas of the mid-Atlantic and southeastern

FIGURE 1. Distribution of five antigenically distinct rables virus strains and the predominant wildlife species affected — contigous United States



#### Rabies - Continued

United States; (4) red fox rabies areas of the northeast United States; and (5) gray fox rabies areas of Arizona.

There are two separate enzootic hosts for rabies in Arizona, the striped skunk and the gray fox. Virus isolates from these two species can easily be distinguished with mabs. Rabies virus from the javelina was identical to that found in rabid gray foxes in Arizona, suggesting that the infection in the javelina was the result of spillover from enzootic disease in foxes. The reaction pattern found in virus isolates from foxes in Arizona is unique among over 300 rabies isolates collected from terrestrial mammals elsewhere in the United States. Moreover, the virus strains in foxes and skunks in Arizona are different from each other, even when infected animals of both species are found in the same area. Fox virus isolates from Texas also differ in their reactivity pattern from skunks in Texas, even when isolates from both species are collected in the same county. This observation is unique to Arizona and Texas.

Rabies laboratories are encouraged to submit for monoclonal antibody typing brain specimens from rabies cases that occur unexpectedly in a new species or area. Such specimens should be submitted through state health departments to CDC.

(Continued on page 561)

TABLE I. Summary-cases specified notifiable diseases, United States

		35th Week End	ling	Cumuli	stive, 35th Wee	k Ending
Dissase	Aug. 30, 1986	Aug. 31, 1985	Median 1981-1985	Aug. 30, 1986	Aug. 31, 1985	Mediun 1981-198
Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)	252	184	N	8.357	5,139	N
Asaptic meningitis	353	357	371	5,505	4,998	4,998
Encephalitis: Primary (arthropod-borne						
& unspec.)	21	31	60	648	727	811
Post-infectious	4	5	1	73	94	86
Gonorrhea: Civilian	13,345	17,013	18,329	578,443	585,934	597,452
Military	285	455	455	11,132	14,249	16,161
Repatitis: Type A	306	486	420	14,349	14,581	14,581
Type B	424	548	472	17,246	17.033	15,879
Non A. Non B	60	69	N	2,368	2,753	N
Unspecified	47	91	103	3.043	3,806	4,765
egioneflosis	6	9	N	418	473	96
Leprosy		5	5	175	262	169
Malerie	23	16	16	667	678	678
Measles: Total*	57	56	10	5,249	2,388	2.244
Indigenous	53	34	N	5,009	1,991	N
Imported	4	22	N	240	397	N
Maningococcal infections: Total	25	20	34	1.780	1,698	2.003
Civilian	25	20	34	1,778	1.692	1.999
Military				2	6	9
Mumos	45	27	27	3.304	2.170	2.407
Perfusis	48	167	86	1,984	1.839	1,394
Rubella (German meastes)	5	45	18	390	541	758
Syphilis (Primary & Secondary): Civilian	295	585	585	17,136	17.938	20.357
Military	2	1	6	112	119	250
Toxic Shock syndrome	A A	5	N	238	263	N
Tuberculosis	377	511	449	14,469	14,257	15,598
Tutaremus	5	4	10	94	119	168
Typhoid fever	1 4	3	6	184	226	270
Typhus fever, tick-borne (RMSF)	36	25	40	559	476	777
Rabies, animal	36 74	98	128	3,700	3.575	4,319

TARLE II Notifiable diseases of low frequency United States

	Cum 1986		Cum 1986
Anthrax Botulism: Foodborne Infant (N.Mex. 1) Other Brucelloeis (Ohio 1, N.C. 1) Cholers Congenital rubello syndrome Congenital syphilis, eges < 1 year Diphtherie	6 37 1 53 2 107	Leptospirosis (Tex. 1) Plague (Ariz. 1) Plague (Ariz. 1) Poliomyesitic, Paralysic Psittacosis (Upstate N.Y. 1, Fla. 1) Rabies, human Tetanus (Tax. 1) Trichinosis Typhus fever, flas-borne (endemic, murine)	24 6 71 44 21 34

<sup>\*</sup>Four of the 57 reported cases for this week were imported from a foreign country or can be directly traceable to a known internationally imported case within two persentions.

TABLE III. Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending August 30, 1986 and August 31, 1985 (35th Week)

	AIDS	Aseptic Menin-	Encep	halitis	Gono	rrhea	H	epatitis (V	irall, by typ		Lagionel-	Lepros
Reporting Area	AIUS	gitis	Primary	Post-in- fectious	(Civi	tion)	, A	В	NA,NB	Unspeci- fied	losis	Lepros
	1986	1986	Cum 1986	Cum. 1986	Cum 1986	Cum. 1985	1986	1986	1988	1986	1986	Cum 1986
NITED STATES	8,357	353	648	73	578,443	585,934	305	424	50	47	6	175
EW ENGLAND	373	19	17	3	14,463	15,439	15	39	12	9	8	
faine	14	3			606	747		7				
I H	9	:	2	2	378 167	396 209	2	*	i		*	
4	203	1	2 4	2	5,757	5,947	7	19	9	1	1	
fass I	21	10	-		1,146	1.226		3	1			
onn	123	5	9	1	6,409	5,914	6	10	1		-	
AD ATLANTIC	3,211	64	75	7	98,427	84,862	17	72	3	2		12
ipstate N Y I Y City	297	36	27	4	11,610	11,257	6	37	1		0	10
4J	2,202	15	15	-	56,870 12,954	42,583 12,799	7	20	1	2		
a	217	13	23	3	16,993	18,223	4	15	1	-		
N CENTRAL	491	97	183	11	75,685	78,841	20	46	2	5		
Ohio	96	34	58	3	19,568	20,109	4	19	*	1 2	-	
nd	50 242	24	42 38	3 4	8,060 21,182	8,497	11	2		2		
Mich	78	36	35	i	24,107	21,887	5	18	2	-		
Wis	25	U	10	-	2,768	7,642	Ü	U	Ü	U	U	
NN CENTRAL	161	28	30	8	25,094	27,395	15	18	2	1		
Ainn	60		12		3,591	3,998	2	2		-	-	
owa An	11	3	9		2,575	2,902 13,170	5	3	1			
V Dak	56	9	1	-	12,533	182			1			
Dak	2	7	7	-	516	509	3	1			*	
leter lans	7 24	3 4	i	7	1,928 3,729	2,371 4,263	1 2	1 5	i	1	- :	
			84	26	152,419	151,333	50	73	7	3	5	
ATLANTIC Del	1,191	54	5	20	2,470	2,787	12					
Ad	122	13	25	1	18,033	19,439	1	6				
C	151		-	1	11,255	10,157	1	2	-		-	
Va .	110	5	27	1	12,341	12,721	1	6	- :	*	*	
W Va	6	5	13	-	1,495	1,712	2	4 9	1	2	3	
V C	47	11	12	1	23,909	23,450 14,311	2	20	1	-	1	
S C Ga	28 170	5		i	13,118	30,623	4	15	2		1	
Fla	539		2	21	44,251	36,133	29	11	3	1	*	
ES CENTRAL	110	7	42	3	47,274	49,908	5	24	1	4		
Kγ	25	2	20	1	5.223	5,665	2	2				
Tenn	53	3	3	1	18,297	18,976	3		1	1		
Miss	12		18	1	13,504	15,496 9,771	-	14		2	2	
WS CENTRAL	491	58	88	6	68,872	73,502	47	51	4	14		
Ark	21			2	6,507	7,237		3	1	-		
La	111	2	3	*	12,368	14,384	1	6	1			
Okia Tex	332		16 69	Ä	7,886 42,111	8,019 43,862	37	40	2	13		
MOUNTAIN	206	_ 19	23	1	17,282	18,358	82	57	11	12		
Mont	4			1	482	505	1	1	1	1		
idaho	2				556	553	4	2		-		
Wyo	96		2		375 4,528	431	1	4		2		
Colo N Mex	11		3		1,709	5,442 2,113	6	*	2	4	-	
Ariz	52				5,602	5,341	59	41	6	9		
Utah	13		5		733	829	7	-	1			
Nev	24		1		3,297	3,144	4	9	1			
PACIFIC Wash	2,123		106	8	78,927 5,917	86,296 6,420	54 31	44 29	8	5		1
Oreg	47				3,371	4,264	23	10	4	1		
Calif	1,938	1 11	92		66,897	72,411	U	U	Ü	ü		
Alaska Hawaii	11	2	3		1,847 895	1,985	-	4				
	9.	· U			122	137	U	U	U	U	U	
Guarn P R	76		4		1,539	2,262		4				
VI	1				166	327						
Pac Trust Terr					295	655	1					
Amer Samos		. U	-		30		U	U	U	U	U	

TABLE III. (Cont'd.) Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending August 30, 1986 and August 31, 1985 (35th Week)

	Malaria		Mean	iles (Rut			Menin- gococcal	Mur	100		Pertussis			Rubella	
Saporting Area	merana	Indig	enove	Impo	rted *	Total	Infections	-	-						
	Cum. 1986	1986	Cum. 1986	1986	Cum. 1986	Cum. 1985	Cum. 1986	1986	Cum. 1986	1986	Cum. 1986	Cum. 1985	1986	Cum. 1986	Cum 1985
UNITED STATES	667	53	5,009	4	240	2,388	1,780	45	3,304	48	1,984	1,839	5	390	541
NEW ENGLAND	38		77		8	124	125		52		113	93		9	12
Maine	9		10			9	23				2	5		1	
EH.	2		41		-		15	-	12	~	58	38		1	2
Ar. Mass	20	-	23	-	6	116			9	-	28	28		4	
R.I.	5	-	2	-			17		9		4	12		2	
open.	9		î		2	7	35	-	19		18	7		1	
MID ATLANTIC	94	4	1,610	2	23	200		1	136	3	138	111		31	21
Upstate N Y	32	4	68		19	82	95	1	54	2	89	64	-	23	1
N Y City	25	*	615		2	63			5	*	11	11	-	5	17:
N.J. Pé.	18		905	21	2	27	104	-	36 41	1	35	33	-	3	1
			070				242	33	2,251	10	259	389	2	37	2
EN CENTRAL	14	2	970		16	515 54	243	33	100	9	117	37	-	1	21
Ind.	2		17	*		57			31		22	98	-		
MI.	14	2	636	-	3	290		32	1,676	1	29	41	2	26	10
Mich. Wis.	13	ű	56 261	Ü	3	55 58		1	249 195	Ü	67	183	Ú	8 2	1
				U									0		
W.N. CENTRAL	23		322 45		17	11		3	85	17	180	117		10	15
lows.	1		133		1		- 11	3	24		13	5		1	
Mo	10	-	25		6	2	30		15		12	24		1	
N. Dak		*	26		1	2			3		4	9		1	
S Dak		*		-	*		. 4	*	1		14	2	*		
Nebr Kans	4 2		94	-	5	1	15		41	16	92	23		7	
	87	34	539		53	287		4	158	3	591	384		10	5
S. ATLANTIC	1		1				. 2				222				
Md.	12	3	25		9	94	44		15	-	136	231	-	*	
D.C.	22	1	36		24	13			34		30				
Va. W. Va.	4		2		24	33		-	38		23	4	-		
N.C.	4		2		1	1			14		41	17			
SC	6		274				29		12		13	1			
Go			79	-	14		50	1	15		102	76			
Fin.	29	30	120		3	10	82	3	30	3	24	47		10	2
E.S. CENTRAL	16	1	57		8		7 99		25		42	30		4	
Ky.	4				6		5 24		6		5	3		4	
Tenn. Ale	1		54	-	1		1 36		16		15	16			
Miss.	7		1 2		1		- 28 1 11	-	2		22	7			
W S CENTRAL	71	11	596	2	36	42	3 155	1	152	4	169	264	2	57	2
Ark			276	-	2		- 22		7		11	12			
E.B.	14		4			4			2		11	10			
Chia. Tex.	48		279		1 32		1 21	N 1	143		93	126		57	
									7.79		-			-	,
MOUNTAIN Mont.	26		297		26	13	7 8	3	206		199	140		22	
hlaho	1	-	1				7 3		. 6	-	33	8			
Wyo.							- 2			. 3	4		. 1		
Colo			2		5	1		1			53			. 1	
N. Mex.	- 1		32 252		7		6 8	N							
Anz. Utah	2						6 19	1	168		47			13	
Nev.	3		1				- 26	1			3			3	
PACIFIC	281		54		53	29	2 372		231	9 1				- 210	1
Wash.	200				21		6 54		231					- 14	
Oreg	11	5 .	. 6		-		3 30				10			. 1	
Calif	23							Ü			190			191	1
Alaska Hawaii		1					- 11		. (	6 .	. 2	2	9		
												1		. 4	
Guam P.R.		1 1		1 U			10 -			4 L		1 1		- 60	
VI		-					0 -								
Pac. Trust Terr.							- 1			7 .				- 2	
Amer Samos			1 .	2 U					1	4 1	1			1 1	

\*For messles only, imported cases includes both out-of-state and international importations.

N Not notifiable U Unavailable \*International \*Qut-of-state\*

TABLE III. (Cont'd.) Cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending August 30, 1986 and August 31, 1985 (35th Week)

Reporting Area	Syphilis ( (Primary & S	Civilian) Secondary)	Toxic- shock Syndrome	Tubero	culosis	Tuta- remia	Typhoid Fever	Typhus Fever (Tick-borne) (RMSF)	Raties, Animal
	Cum. 1986	Cum 1985	1986	Com. 1986	Cum. 1985	Cum. 1986	Cum 1986	Cum 1986	Cum. 1986
UNITED STATES	17,135	17,938	4	14,469	14,257	94	184	559	3,700
NEW ENGLAND	314	361	-	473	483	1	11	10	3
Maine	15	10		32	35				
N H Vt	10	9 5		19	16	*		1	
Mass	165	181		13 247	4	:	-	*	
RI	18	12		35	287 35	1	9	3	:
Conn	99	144		127	106		2	3	1 2
MID ATLANTIC	2,466	2,371	1	2,954	2,595	1	15	24	444
Upstate N Y N Y City	107	179		424	452		3	14	59
NJ	1,419	1,466	:	1,536	1,257	-	6	5	
Pa	495	465 261	1	506 488	373 513	1	5	2 3	389
EN CENTRAL	677	727	1	1,749	1.749		13	60	92
Othio	92	100	1	307	314		2	56	92
tradit Bi	80	65		181	216		2		14
Mich	351	362		756	762	*	2	1	27
Wis	35	154	ú	427 78	351 106		5 2	3	21
WN CENTRAL	148	155	1	424	385	29	8		
Minn	27	32	-	104	79	20	1	39	588 82
OWN	8	17		35	43	1		i	132
Mo V Dak	81	76		211	188	23	6	20	63
S Dak	3	2 5		16	6	-		1	132
Vebr	11	7		7	19	2		6 4	115
Cans	17	16	1	45	37	2	1	6	22 42
ATLANTIC	5.261	5,309		2.762	2,890	9	26	256	883
Del	36	26		27	27		1	200	883
Ma D C	293	318		213	261	2	6	28	439
ta .	208 254	240		94	109	1	2		26
W Va	18	203		229 82	245 78	2	6	41	119
4 C	339	457		372	368	1	3 4	90	30
S C	456	548		358	356		-	59	41
Fla	1,014 2,643	917 2,585		422 965	486 960	3		29	140
S CENTRAL	1,170					-	4	1	81
(y	54	1,378	*	1,254	1,249	8	2	66	241
fenn	410	429	-	367	292 361	3 4	:	17	64
kip	376	430		393	371	1	1	27	97 78
Ass	330	476	-	196	225		1	8	2
N'S CENTRAL	3,457	4,064		1,870	1,769	41	15	95	538
Ark a	165 595	212 706		246	196	30	-	4	123
This	94	123		320 175	264 177	1	1		15
ex	2,603	3,023		1,129	1,132	6	13	76 15	47 353
ADUNTAIN	408	490	1	343	361	4	8	8	529
April	6	5	-	20	46	1	1	4	175
daho Wyo	10	4		16	15			-	4
wyo olo	100	7		-	.5			1	224
i Mex	100 52	116 95		30	43		1	3	23
Ariz	167	230		163	154	1	3		6 87
Itali	12	5	1	28	10	1	2		3
lev	60	28		17	22	1	1		7
WCIFIC	3,234	3,083	-	2,640	2,776	1	86	1	382
Wash	99	80		128	159		3	-	5
Oreg Calif	75	62		95	90				-
Vieske	3.033	2,889	U	2,250	2,326	:	79	1	369
lawan	25	50		130	130	1	1 3	:	8
iuam	1	2	U	34	31				
R	576	536		225	240		4		35
ac. Trust Terr.	170	1		1	.1			-	
		92		44	44		42		

U Unavailable

## TABLE IV. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities," week ending August 30, 1986 (35th Week)

		All Caus	es, By A	ge (Yeer	(er			A	# Cause	s, By Ag	e (Yeers	)			
Reporting Area	All Ages	>65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total	Reporting Area	All Ages	>65	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total
EW ENGLAND	586	381	115	32	15	23	39	S. ATLANTIC	1,216	720	276	109	50	29	54
oston, Mass.	133	76	31	10	7	10	13	Atlanta, Ga.	128	71	34	14	9	-	1
ridgeport, Conn.	39	25	12	2			2	Baltimore, Md.	266	143	53	22	11	6	
ambridge, Mass.	31	23	5	3	*		3	Charlotte, N.C.	101	58	29	7	4	3	
all River, Mass. artford, Conn.	31	28	2	4	3	4	1	Jacksonville, Fla. Milami, Fla.	99	54	21	14	6	4	
owell, Mess.	59 18	37	11	*	3		1	Norfolk, Va.	57	28	21	4	2	2	
ynn, Mass.	14	10	3	1	-	*	1	Richmond, Va	91	55	19	10	5	2	
ew Bedford, Mas	16	13	3				1	Savannah Ga	46	27	9	6	3	1	
lew Haven, Conn.		29		4	2	3	1	St. Petersburg, Fla	92	83	5	2	1	1	
rovidence, R.I.	44	34	7	1	1	1	4	Tampa, Fla	74	48	16	3	3	3	
iomerville, Mass.	4	3	1	-	-			Washington, D.C.	179	96	48	22	6	6	
pringfield, Mass.	46	27	11	3	1	4	7	Wilmington, Del.	17	14	2	1	-	-	
Vaterbury, Conn.	31	22	7	1	*	1	5								_
Vorcester, Mass.	54	42	10	1	1		-	E.S. CENTRAL	697	460	130	56	25	26	3
								Berrengham, Ala.	135	30	24	11	4	9	
	2,535	1,596		256	72	69	111	Chattanooga, Tenn	73	42	12	5	7	4	
Albeny, N.Y.	42	30	4 2	3	1	4	3	Knoxville, Tenn.	99	71	16	9	,	3	
luftelo, N.Y.	23	20		1	*	1	8	Louisville, Ky	128	87	26	7		2	
Camden, N.J.	31	57	28	3	4	1	1	Memphis, Tenn Mobile, Ala	60	36	10		3	5	
lizebeth, N.J.	29	19	6	3	1			Montgomery, Ala	36	28	6			2	
rie, Pa.t	52	36	12	3		1	1	Nashville, Tenn	117	79	21	12	4	1	
lersey City, N.J.	40	26		4	1	- 1	3	Pagerwag, rens.	***	10	21	12			
I.Y. City, N.Y.	1,293	800	252	177	38	28	49	W.S. CENTRAL	1,262	740	290	120	68	43	-
lewark, N.J.	81	30	23	19	3	6	9	Austin, Tex.	60	35	13	7	3	2	
sterson, N.J.	28	19	5	3	1		3	Baton Rouge, La.	52	36	11	2	3	-	
hitadelphia, Pa.	403	244	96	28	13	22	19	Corpus Christi, Tex	47	22	11	7	4	3	
rittsburgh, Pa.t	64	47	15	2				Dallas, Tex	206	119	40	27	12	8	
leading Pa	26	19	4	2	-	1	1	El Paso, Tex	68	35	16	9	5	2	
Rochester, N.Y.	126	89	23	7	3	4	10	Fort Worth, Tex	86	56	21	4	2	3	
Schenectady, N.Y.	36	24	12			*	*	Houston, Tex	243	121	66	32	17	7	
Scranton, Pa.t	20	12	7		1	*	1	Little Rock, Ark	69	43	16		4	2	
Syracuse, N.Y.	84	53	19	4	5	3		New Orleans, La.	110	60	30		6	5	
Trenton, N.J.	28	21	6	1	-		1	San Antonio, Tex	159	106	30		7	7	
Utica, N.Y. Yonkers, N.Y.	22	19	1	2	-		-	Shreveport, La Tulsa, Okia	71	43	16		2	4	
CORNERS, PL.Y.	18	14	2	1	1		2	Tursa, Okia	91	64	20	4	3	-	
E.N. CENTRAL	2,116	1,349	461	170	51	85	74	MOUNTAIN	615	409	116	43	40	7	- 1
Akron Ohio	48	37	6	3		2		Albuquerque, N Mex		51	11		9	1	
Canton Ohio	27	19	6	1		1	1	Colo Springs, Colo	28	24	2		-		
Chicago, M.§	564	362	125	45	10	22	16	Denver, Colo	125	88	27		- 3	1	
Cincinnati, Ohio	96	67	14	6	7	2	9	Las Vegas, Nev	83	48	20	10	5	-	
Cleveland, Ohio	146	74	42	17	4	9	3	Ogden, Utah	17	12	4				
Columbus, Ohio	83	56	13	10	1	3	4	Phoenix, Ariz	122	74	24		9	3	
Dayton, Ohio	130	88	29		2	3	6	Puebla, Colo	34	22	7		4		
Detroit, Mich.	257	148	57	28	9	15	7	Salt Lake City, Utah	46	26	10		5	1	
vansville, Ind.	38	28	8	1	2	1	1	Tucson, Ariz.	84	64	11	3	- 5	1	
ort Wayne, Ind.	59	36	16	5	2	*	2		1.569	999	900	155	60	50	
Sary, Ind.	13	9	3	1	-	-		PACIFIC Berkeley, Calif		999	302		00	50	
Grand Rapids, Mic		32	11	5	1	6	6	Fresno, Calif	12 88	60	13	5	5	5	
ndianapolis, Ind. Madison, Wis.	170	99	49	10	6	6	2	Giendale Calif	7	6	1 1				
Milwaukee, Wis.	128	18	22	8	3	7	3	Honolulu Hawaii	75	49	13	9	2	2	
eoria, III.	33	22	5	4		2	5	Long Beach, Calif.	87	61	18		4	1	
Nackford, III.	31	24	3	4	-	-		Los Angeles, Calif	326	202	51		18	5	
South Bend, Ind.	50	38	10	1	1		1	Dakland, Calif.	52	37	7			2	
Toledo, Otios	102	67	19	7	4	5	5	Pasadena Calif.	26	20				1	
foungstown, Ohio	0 55	34	14	5	1	1	2	Portland, Oreg.	97	68	10	7	6	3	
NAME OF TAXABLE	204	402			0.7	-	-	Sacramento, Calif.	140	86	24			6	
W.N. CENTRAL Des Moines, lows	704	467 45	140	48	27	24	29	San Diego, Calif. San Francisco, Calif.	144	84	31			8	
Des Moines, sowe Dukuth, Minn.	23	19	4	3	*	3	2	San Jose Calif	134	87	21			3	
Dukuth, Minn. Kansas City, Kans		17		2	2	-	2	Seattle, Wash		87				3	
Kansas City, Mo.	93	57	19	9	6	2		Spokane, Wash	125 63	41	22			1	
Lincoln, Nebr.	36	24	6	3	2	1	3	Tacoma, Wash	36	23		8 4	1		1
Minneapolis, Minr		69	25	5	3	7		- Sourie, Vissil.							
Omaha, Nebr.	86	47	25		3	3		TOTAL	11,280	7,121	2,363	2 997	408	356	8 4
St. Louis, Mo.	145	96	28	6	8	7	4	- Sime	. 1,200	25100			400		
St. Paul, Minn.	62	52	7	3			1								
Wichita, Kans.	63	41	11	7	3	1									

<sup>\*</sup>Mortality data in this table are voluntarily reported from 121 cities in the United States, most of which have populations of 100,000 or more. A death is reported by the place of its occurrence and by the week that the death certificate was filled. Fetal deaths are not included. \*Precumonia and effiliaria.\*

† Bacause of changes in reporting methods in these 3 Pennsylvania cities, these numbers are partial counts for the current week. Complete calculate well be available in 4 to 6 weeks.

† Total includes unknown ages.

§ Data not available. Figures are estimates based on average of past 4 weeks.

#### Rabies - Continued

This case emphasizes the importance of assessing every mammal bite individually for the possibility of rabies. After the bite of a wild animal, the decision to administer postexposure rabies prophylaxis is based on the results of fluorescent antibody examination of the animal brain, the status of rabies activity in the area where the bite occurred, and the species of biting animal.

#### Reference

 Smith JS, Sumner JW, Roumillat LF, Baer GM, Winkler WG. Antigenic characteristics of isolates associated with a new epizootic of raccoon rabies in the United States. J Infect Dis 1984;149:769-74.

## **Current Trends**

## Leading Work-Related Diseases and Injuries

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has developed a suggested list of 10 leading work-related diseases and injuries and has described the first eight categories on that list.\* A discussion of the ninth category, Dermatologic Conditions, appears below.

#### **DERMATOLOGIC CONDITIONS**

Background. A worker's skin is directly exposed to the occupational environment and is susceptible to a large number of dermatologic injuries and other conditions (Table 1). Complete data on the extent and cost of dermatologic injuries are not available; however, dermatologic conditions other than injuries accounted for 37% of the 106,100 occupational illnesses recorded in 1983 in the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses<sup>†</sup> (1). Results from the BLS Annual Survey for 1972-1976<sup>§</sup> indicated that 20%-25% of all occupational dermatologic conditions resulted in lost time from work (average 10-12 lost work days) (2). Similar data based on workers' compensation claims have been reported from California and South Carolina (3,4). Assuming that only 2%-10% of cases are actually reported, the annual cost of occupational dermatologic conditions resulting from lost worker productivity, medical care, and disability payments may range between \$222 million and \$1 billion (5,6).

TABLE 1. Selected examples of occupational dermatologic conditions

Skin disorders	Affected skin structures
Contact dermatitis	Epidermis
Infection	Epidermis and dermis
Trauma	Connective tissue
Cancer	Squamous and basal cells, melanocytes
Vitiligo	Melanocytes
Urticaria	Blood vessels and mast cells
Chloracne	Sebaceous glands

<sup>\*</sup>References to the previous articles are given in the most recent article (MMWR 1986;35:185-8).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>The BLS Annual Survey provides yearly national estimates of incidence rates of occupational illness based on a randomly selected national sample of private-sector U.S. businesses from all industrial classifications. The survey records all new illnesses recognized during the reporting year (incidence) but does not measure continuing conditions from previous years (prevalence).

<sup>§</sup>Since 1978, the Annual Survey has not tabulated lost workday statistics separately by type of occupational illness.

Work-Related Diseases and Injuries - Continued

Because 10%-15% of requests that NIOSH receives for health hazard evaluations involve skin complaints, and because the economic impact of work-related dermatologic conditions is substantial, NIOSH has included dermatologic conditions on its list of 10 leading work-related diseases and injuries in the United States (7).

Dermatologic Injuries. Dermatologic injuries are usually described as the immediate adverse effects on skin that result from instantaneous trauma or brief exposure to toxic agents involving a single incident in the work environment (1). Skin injuries may constitute 23%-35% of all injuries (8,9). Thus, based on 4,748,000 injuries of all types, and a full-time worker population of 74,750,000 for 1983 (1), an estimated 1,070,000-1,650,000 dermatologic injuries may occur yearly, with an estimated annual rate of skin injury of 1.4-2.2 per 100 full-time workers. The highest percentage of skin injuries are due to lacerations/punctures (82%), followed by burns (chemical and other) (14%) (8) (Table 2).

Other Dermatologic Conditions. Other dermatologic conditions ("illnesses of the skin") may also result from exposure to environmental factors or toxic agents associated with employment. However, they usually result from more sustained or cumulative exposures and involve longer intervals between exposure and occurrence of disease. These conditions include contact dermatitis, infection, acne, and skin cancer. Workers' compensation claims data from California suggest that 95% of these occupational skin conditions are either contact dermatitis (90%) or infections (5%) (3). Field investigations in the 1950s showed that at least 80% of occupational contact dermatitis cases may be caused by the irritating direct cytotoxic effects of causal agents rather than immunologically mediated allergic reactions (70).

The highest number of other occupational skin conditions (23,017) in 1984 occurred in the manufacturing sector; the highest incidence rate (28.5/10,000 full-time workers) involved the combined agriculture/forestry/fish.ng division (Table 3).

The clinical course for occupational contact dermatitis is relatively poor. In three studies, complete resolution occurred in 25% of workers affected; 50% improved but had periodic recurrences; and 25% developed persistent dermatitis as severe as or worse than the original condition (11-13). Contact dermatitis often necessitates job changes or modifications. Despite these, however, complete resolution may occur in only a limited proportion of cases.

Prevention of Work-Related Dermatologic Disorders. The most effective prevention measures are engineering controls that eliminate exposures of the skin to chemical, physical, or mechanical agents through isolation, containment, or redesign of industrial processes. Substitution of less toxic substances through chemical engineering may also be effective (14). Protective clothing should be selected on the basis of resistance to both chemical and physical hazards, as well as on the relative permeabilities to specific chemical exposures. Effective

TABLE 2. Occupational dermatologic injuries\* - United States, 1983

Type of injury	No.	(%)
Lacerations and punctures	253,141	(82.3)
Burns (nonchemical)	36,477	(11.9)
Abrasions	10,576	(3.4)
Burns (chemical)	6,828	(2.2)
Cold injuries	566	(0.2)
Radiation injuries	135	(0.04)
Total	307,723	(100.0)

<sup>\*</sup>Reported by the Supplementary Data System of the Bureau of Labor Statistics from 29 participating states.

#### Work-Related Diseases and Injuries - Continued

cleaning of skin and clothing is important, but workers should not wash vigorously or excessively with harsh soaps and detergents (15). Barrier creams have been suggested as alternatives, although their effectiveness has not yet been established (16). Prevention strategies should always include education of workers and management.

Expanded activities concerning occupational dermatologic conditions include improved methods for surveillance of occupational skin disease and vigorous research in dermatotoxicology to identify preventable risk factors and facilitate effective interventions at early stages.

Reported by Div of Periodic Surveys and Supplementary Data Systems, Office of Occupational Health and Safety Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Dept of Labor; Occupational Dermatology Activity, Industrywide Studies Br, Surveillance Br, Div of Surveillance, Hazard Evaluations, and Field Studies, Data Analysis Section, Div of Safety Research, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, CDC.

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TABLE 3. Cases and incidence rate of occupational dermatologic conditions, in a segment of workers, by major industrial divisions — United States, 1984\*

Industrial division	No.	Incidence rate 1
Agriculture/forestry/fishing	2,233	28.5
Manufacturing	23,017	12.3
Construction	2,456	6.6
Services	7,973	5.0
Transportation/utilities	2,114	4.3
Mining	393	4.0
Wholesale/retail trade	3,770	2.1
Finance/insurance/real estate	563	1.1

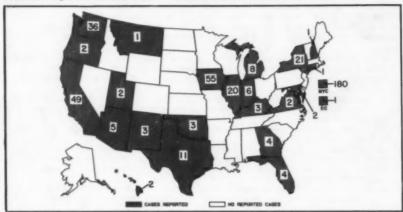
<sup>\*</sup>Bureau of Labor Statistics Annual Survey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>Per 10,000 full-time workers (2,000 employment hours/full-time worker/year).

#### Erratum: Vol. 35, No. 33

p. 525 In the article, "Measles—United States, First 26 Weeks, 1986," the percentages in the second sentence of the last paragraph of the editorial note on page 533 are incorrect. The sentence should begin: Since the percentage of preventable cases increased to 35.8% this year from 25.9% in 1985, further improvement....

FIGURE I. Reported measles cases - United States, weeks 31-34, 1986



Director, Centers for Disease Control James O. Mason, M.D., Dr.P.H. Director, Epidemiology Program Office Carl W. Tyler, Jr., M.D. Editor Pro Tem Richard A. Goodman, M.D., M.P.H. Assistant Editor Karen L. Foster, M.A.

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